THE FORAY OF THE HENDREK HUDSON. FRANK MACKENZIE SAVILE COPYRIGHT F.M.SAVILE A TALE OF 54

CHAPTER VII.

DESMORD'S LUCK IN BEING A SMOKER. In the gray of the dawning a procession wound down the aisles of the pine forest, straggling dismally among the littered debris of the woods. At the head strode a dark, heavily mustached man in the uniform of an officer of Ruesian infentry. Beside him, carry-ing coal bags, were a dozen figures. As he surveyed their strong exertion under the weight they bore he smiled complacently and stroked his chin. He eyed their burdens greedily. Then his glance strayed to the tail of the pro-cession, where, handcuffed and roped, a score and a half of captives slunk be-tween as many guards. He chuckled aloud in his give and once, as Preobeslas raised his head and shot a flery glance at him, lifted his cap and sa-luted him mockingly.

"Soyez le bienvenu, mon cousin; so-yez le bienvenu!" he called ironically and pointed before him with a laugh. An imprecation shot from between

the colonel's teeth, and he whisper to his companion, Desmond, who stumbled beside him: "The dog! My life for his if I have but luck! But my Hilmar, my Hilmar! If I did but know of her safety!"

"He can't possibly have captured her," muttered the other. "D'you sup-pose he wouldn't have been throwing it in your teeth and glorying over you by now if he had? She has found refuge among your people somehow. You may be sure of it. It must be so," he continued flercely, insistently. "He doesn't even know of her being here. He thinks her left behind at Stock-

Who can tell?" sighed the colonel. "He is fit for any deviliahness. My God, if she should be in his hands! But she knews how to die, as do all Polish gentlewomen. She has her little pis-

"Don't," shuddered Desmond, "for God's sake! I can't bear to think of it. I should go mad."

The colonel turned to him. "What can it be to you compared with me, her father, on whose responsibility her coming rests? Curse those fools of yours who let themselves be surprised!" he burst out with the sudden irristion here of with the sudden irristion. tation born of utter despair. "TIS ever an Englishman who in his thick hided conceit believes himself beyond the possibility of an overreach. But for them we might be sailing— Ah, forgive me, my friend!" as Desmond's white face and haggard eyes showed

white face and "haggard eyes showed his silent misery." I am an old man. She was my one hope. I am unstrung. I babble I know not what. The fault is mine, mine alone! Forgive"— One of the guards turned and hit the speaker across the shoulder with his ramrod. "Silence!" he shouted. "Silence, you muttering old reprobate! Name of all

the saints, can't you obey the com-mands of your superior?" And he glanced to the head of the procession

for approval.

ond's face flushed a passionate crimson as he saw this outrage on the father of his heart's desire. With a roar of reckless rage he leaped at the fellow and, bringing his fettered hands above his head, smote his handcuffs with fearful force into the other's eyes. A stream of blood burst from the wound and flooded the battered face. Blinded and stunned, the scoundrel staggered back into the arms of a com-Paul Preobesias turned just in time to see the blow. With a snari of rage he snatched a rifle from the soldier beside him and, scarce taking aim, fired point blank at the English man as he stood neross his foe. As the clatter of the shot died into the echoes Desmond flung up his hands and spun round. With a thud he fell upon his face, rolled half over and sild back again. As his body settled into the angle between two bowlders a shiver twitched his shoulders. Then

A groun rose from all the captives as they stood paralyzed by the sudden tragedy. The groan became a shout, and they flung themselves desperately upon their guards and fought, swinging each his fettered wrists. A valustruggle! Within five minutes all were battered and roped into utter subjection, and the leng line of bruised wretches was stumbling anew down the track, half blinded, bleeding, smit-ten and cowed. At the head again the leader raged, venting furious curses, while between two of his fellows the disfigured soldier was led, bemoaning his sightless eyes, over which the blood caked continually as it welled from

his scarred cheeks.

Before they left they raised and looked at the prone figure between the stones. A red ooze was spreading over Desmond's side. His face was colorless. His inert body was limp, and the clothes hung baggard about him. The breath was silent between his white

the sergeant. "This cock will

crow no more."
"The English dog!" answered the officer. "Let the carrion rot. A fit meal for the forest. Let wolf eat wolf. There'll be little left of him by morn-

They flung the body back among the stones and continued down the faint forest track. For some few minutes the crackle of their tread among the underwood was heard, and the gleam of the bayonets showed through the pine needles. Then quiet fell again upon the forest. Upon the bowlders

Desmond slept motionless.

A stealthy step among the scrub, and
a white face looked out from behind a

was a cough, and a faint color rose to his face. His eyes opened and stared at her with wondering loquiry. Suddenly he sat up and gazed round him amazedly. Hilmar's surprise at this resurrection of the seeming dead matched his own at finding himself in unexpected surroundings.

"Don't move, don't move!" she implored. "You'll bleed to death. Please, please, lie still till I can get help."

please, lie still till I can get help.

Desmond waked and blinked at her stupidly. Then, with an effort, he stood up. Hilmar gasped in her amazement. He slapped himself about the ribs with a grimace. Then he stared confusedly down at the blood smean on his side. He thrust his hand be neath his jacket and tugged at some-thing. He produced a jagged bit of silver that winked cheerfully in the sunlight. A hearse giggle broke from

"He's delirious!" sobbed Hilmar in

despair. "What shall I do?"

At her voice Desmond's wits began to grow to him again. He took the girl's hand and held it fast. The colo was back again in his face finely now. "Dear Miss Preobesias, I assure you I'm right as the mall. The beggar hit my cigarette case edgeways and my pocketbook. The bullet never penetrated. Bar having every vestige of breath knocked out of me, I'm as fit as be da—as a fiddle, I mean."

The girl eyed him doubtfully. "But the blood!" she gasped. "You must be wounded."

"Never a bit," he answered cheerly "A jag of my elgarette case has just scratched me; that's all. Any bit of sticking plaster will put that right. But how on earth did you get here?"
"I followed you last night. I saw you find the treasure. I watched you

all the time. After the first few min utes I was never 20 yards from you. walked behind you all the way back. wanted to triumph over father and all of you and show that I was quite ca-pable of sharing your adventure. 1 was going to burst upon you and—and—laugh at you when I saw those horrible men rise up and fell you. I just kept from screaming and ran back into the shadow. Then I didn't know what to do. I was so frightened, all alone. At last I thought of our old jager, Stefan. He lives in a little cottage in the woods apart from the vil-lage. It's he who always sent father the rents he managed to collect. It took me two hours to get there, and it was still dark when I arrived. I didn't was still dark when I arrived. I didn't dare knock, in case there should be some one with him. So I sat about in the bushes till morning, and then he came out, and I knew him. When I ran down, he crossed himself and tried to exercise me," and a watery smile crossed her face. "He thought I was a ghost. He took me in and cave. ghost. He took me in and gave me food. Then he went out to reconnoiter and told me that you were all coming along bound. Then I watched with him and saw you killed, as I thought, and the speaker's lips trembled. 'Stef

must go back to Stefan's cottage and think what's to be done." "Whatever we find to do, Miss Hil-mar," he said, with a look into her eyes that made the long lashes droop, "believe me that only with my life will I give up the attempt to free your fa-ther." Then the girl led the way si lently down the narrow forest.

an has gone on to see what becomes of

dear father and the rest. Now

They walked quickly through the tangle of the pine trunks, the girl lead-ing. Half an hour saw them enter a little clearing of the forest where a trellised log but centered.

An old man, bent with age and with

features furrowed by many a winter gale, welcomed Hilmar with ejacula-tions of commiseration and anxiety. Sending her into the inner room, he in sisted on Desmond removing his coat and proceeding to dress the scarred side with a decoction of lily leaves and brandy. Then, with hospitable haste, he set bread and fish before them and waited on them, stopping now and again to pat his young mistrees' shoul-der, muttering plous prayers to the mother of God and all saints to preserve his master, the colonel, and send him release from the hands of his ene-

mies. As they are and fortifled themselves for what should betide the old forester explained his doings since he left them to follow the soldlers.

"It is but a poor report I have." he ed in the orchard barn. The walls are three feet thick, as you know. And there is the mout. How can we reach

"Won't the people join us? Surely the whole village is at our back to help their master?"

"In sympathy, one of noble birth But you don't remember. Let us pre



the man has a brace of cannon as well as twoscore of the soldlers. Ever since he came be has known himself un-

The poor girl covered her face with her hands and sobbed. "My father, my father! What can I do? It is death for him, death, and I for him, death, and I am left alone! Oh, what can I do? What can I do?" Desarond put his hand gently upon her shoulder.

Desimond put his hand gently upon her shoulder.

"Dear Miss Hilmar, there is always hope white he is alive. Don't despair. Your cousin doesn't know there are two of us hovering round to find every loophole of escape. The only guard will be from the inside. We have every change for a receipt.

ery chance for a rescue."

She dried her eyes and looked up at im with a gratitude shining in her face that sent his pulses dancing.

"You shame me," she answered.
"Just when I should be strong to plan for father I break down and whine like a beaten puppy. You are wound-ed and have nothing to save but your own life, and yet you are willing to risk it for us, whom you have only known for a week or two." It's just because I want the ac-

quaintance to last a lifetime," said Desmond, with a tender look in his brave eyes, and for the second time that morning Hilmar blushed delight-fully beneath her undried tears. It was by devious ways and the

darkest recesses of the forest that old Stefan took them that evening till from among the belt of laurels that fringed the castle garden they looked upon the prison house that held their friends. The castle and all the outbuildings lay in the form of a square upon an island circled by an irregular most. The river made a bend almost at right angles and looped itself about an acre of grass land. A channel cut across the narrowest diameter of the promontory made the water defenses entire. On the far sides of the streng only entrance was by a drawbridge and beneath an arch. Along the wall head the clank of weapons was to be heard, showing that beneath them sentries strode. It was a fortress seemingly impregnable. "'Tis the eastern wing that holds

the great barn, and there they are be-stowed." said Stefan sadly. "Nothing stowed," said Stefan saily. "Nothin but artillery could pierce those walls. Hilmar stared at the gray stones hopelessly, her gaze finally wandering to Desmond's face with a glance of despairing appeal. He was gnawing his mustache as he silently ruminated on the situation. Then he broke out: "One of the worst difficulties to me is the getting away. If we did manage to release them, there is still the guard on the yacht. They'll have to bring out your father and the rest to ge them down to Osbrog. We might manage something on the way, but without

the yacht to get off in what could we Rilmar translated to old Stefan. "That's no great difficulty," said he. "If the capials of noble birth can extract them from these walls, I will charge them myself with the guard on the racht. There are but a half dozen of them." he added contemptuously. "How?" orded Hilman. "You!"

"Yes," answered thinar. "You!"
"Yes," answered the old man meekly,
"but that you shall see when the time
comes. The first question is the scaling of these walls."

Desmond was still staring at the
walls that stood out in such uncompromising or inness necess, the sheen

promising grimness across the sheen of mountit water. Unconsciously gnawed at his fingers, thinking, plan-ning, rejecting desperate proposal after proposal as they formed in his brain. Suddenly at the far corner of the building his gaze strayed and fixed itself. Still ganahing at his knuckles, he looked and looked, working and turning over his new formed idea. He turned to his companions

"That group of poplars there—is that poposite the barn?"

Yes," said Stefan wearily. "Tis almost exactly opposite. But there the stream is deepest, though not so

"Can we get into the clump without

"Assuredly. None knows of our esence. We are not expected."
"Come, then. I begin to see light."

The three wormed and segment through the thick underscrub of laurel and rhododendren and by slow degrees and with immense carrien reached at last the water's edge beneath the tall trees whose branches shot out across stream. Here they halted, and Desmond scanned the distance with

"How do they get light and nir into the barn?" he asked the old juger. "Where are the windows?"
"There, at the edge of the roof, one

of noble birth! Look at the caves against the sky, and you will see the bars stick out in places."

Desmond siapped his leg joyfully "By gum." he whispered. "I think I have it! What sort of a place is it inside?"

"A jolly, old, smooth paved, empt room at this time of year," said Hil-mar. "I well remember playing there when I was a tiny child. The walls run up to the two windows Stefan speaks of. The rafters are bare. There is no ceiling, only heavy slabs of stone upon strong beams."
"What's to prevent our fellows

climbing up and working through then?" demanded Desmond. "You forget, excellency. They are

bound. The walls are smooth. The windows are heavily barred." "Humph! Then what it wants is a friend on the roof who will file the bars, get in, cut their bonds and show

them how to climb up a rope and on to the roof." "And then?" said Hilmar breath-

"Then! Why, back to the yacht again and out to sea as hard as we can go." "But how can any one get on to the roof? There is a river to swim. The walls are smooth and without a single crevice of hand hold. The drawbridge

is up at night. No one can enter ex-cept under supervision."
"I have my plan," said Desmond hopefully, "It's a desperate one, I al-Desmond slept motionless.

A stealthy step among the scrub, and a white face looked out from behind a rock and glanced anxiously round. Then lightly a girl ran across the glade and sank to her knees beside Desmond's body. The tears were streaming down her cheeks. The sobs choked her as she bent over him and chafed her as she bent over him and chafed she took a flask and poured a drop or two between his clinched teeth. There

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breaking, i begin to swing the cord

breaking, I begin to swing the cord breaking. I begin to swing the cord like a pendulum till it files out right over the window bars. Then I let it drop a foot or two, and it catches and lodges in a corner of the grating. I shall pull it as tight as I can, and there you have the bridge I want."
"But—but you can't swing across a

thin rope like that.'

but I can if it's a thick one, and that it'll have to be if the others are to come back across it. When I get on to the roof, I can file the bars, drop down into the prison, until the others, and then back we all troop through the forest as hard as we can split. Stefan says he's going to have the yacht ready for us. How I don't know, but that's his affair. Before morning we shall be 40 miles out into the Baltic, and it's 20 to 1 on our cluding my old ark they've got to send after de. It's as simple as getting shaved."

Hilmar and Stefan both shook their heads. The proposal seemed so utter-ly crack brained.

Supposing the captain gets on to the roof," said the latter, "how does he know he can file the bars? The sen-tries will see him. He will only waste his own life purposely. Why not wait till they are brought out to travel down to Osbrog?"
"Because we shall be three to 30

then," answered Desmond. "How can we attack half a company of armed soldiers? No; my plan is the only feasible one.

"I can't let you," said Hilmar desper-ately. "It ian't honorable. Why should you risk yourself for us? No; I wou't permit it."

Desmond smiled quietly. "I am go-ing, Miss Hilmar. Don't let us discuss anything but the ways and means. After all, if I was taken we should be

no worse off than we are now."
"Much worse off," replied Hilmar,
"because yeu, too, would be in the



"You forget, excellency. They are bound, The wells are smooth." hands of those wretches. Is it nothing to me, do you think," she added, with passion, "that you should risk

Desmond's eyes lit up with a glow of tenderness. "I-I hoped it might be something," he said simply. "But do you think there is no happiness to me in adventuring something for you

and yours?"
Hilmar looked up at him for a moment without speaking. Her eyes were like stars in the soft twilight of

were like stars in the sort twilight of the shindow.

"It must be as you wish," she said gravely. "But if you are taken—are taken"—and a sob escaped her as she strove for words—"what has life left "The memory that to two men at least you were all in all," said Des-mond, and he put out his hand and met

sought support in this sudden strain of despair. "As if I could fail now!" he added triumphantly, pressing the shaking little palm.
Suddenly, impulsively, the girl raised his clasping hand to her lips and kissed it. Then, wha a burning face, she gave a whispered command to old Stefan and began hastily to thread her way through the bushes and back little the forcest.

hers as it strayed toward him, as if it

Into the forest.

Desmond stood for a minute like one to whom the gates of paradise are opened. He regarded his right hand in a sort of ecstatic amage. Then quickly

he pressed it to his own lips, as if transferring that precious influence to safer keeping. As one in a dream he followed the other two, and the whote party disappeared in the mazes of the forest.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

My Bruce,

I was born with more courage than most women, I suppose, for, notwithstanding my cottage was somewhat re-tired and my life somewhat hermitlike, with Bruce as my only constant companion, it never once occurred to me to be afraid.

came regularly every morning and left punctually at 7 o'clock every evening, but this arrangement, of course, tated my being alone during the night Nevertheless I liked the arrang My great, tawny brute friend was, I us laughingly to meet, equal to a score men in faithfulness, intelligence an courage and more than equal to a los of women, so far as agreeable compan ionship was concerned. And now lo Bruce's deeds become his magnifier.

in spite of my cool blood I began to feel alarmed and involuntarily whispered softly:

"Bruce! Bruce!"

He smoothed his rough coat and turned a quick, intelligent glance upon me, with an acknowledging wag of his tail, and then in an instant resumed his former attitude and savage appearance.

Dropping on my knees beside him, I breathlessly listened and soon heard the sound of stenithy footsteps on the porch without. Rallying my wits, I sprang lightly and quickly to my feet and hastened to the kitchen, intending to unfasten the door and give Bruce the chance to seize the intruder unexpectedly and thus to his serious disadvantage. But on reaching the door I paused, exclaiming in a frightened whisper:

"Another! And he is picking the lock!"

"Another! And he is picking the lock!"

Walting only long enough to assure myself that the bolts were securely fastened, I hurried back to the sitting room. Quickly selsing Bruce by the collar, I drew him from his post, whispering in vehement tones:

"Hist, Bruce, hist!"

Comprehending in an instant that I had constituted myself his leader, the lutelligent creature eagerly followed me to the kitchen. There he showed a disposition to half, but at a word he sprang after me as I opened the door leading to the cellar and descended the stairs.

Fearful that he might betray us by

the cellar and descended the stairs.

Fearful that be might betray us by bounding over some unseen obstacle, I placed my hand on his collar and carefully and silently groped my way to the cellar door, It was only a minute's work to unfasten it and throw it softly up and back. I did it, at the same time seizing Bruce, who, crowding close upon my heels, came near slipping the leash prematurely.

Restraining him as well as I could, I crept softly round the house until we were within a few feet of the man busied with the kitchen lock. Absorbed in his nefarious task, he turned neither to the right nor left, and, with a low, sharp "Seize him!" in Bruce's ear, I loosed my hold.

Swift and silent as an arrow from the

bow he shot forward, and the next in-stant his teeth were fastened on the throat of his unsuspecting victim, and threat of his unsuspecting victim, and his lunge form rose uppermost as they tumbled over together.

Impelled by a fear that he might in his savage wrath destroy the poor wretch, I sprang forward. But only a

his savage wrath destroy the poor wretch, I sprang forward. But only a siep.

In the moment's excitement I had quite forgotten the villain lurking on the far porch, and here he stood within a pace of me, his pistol leveled full at my faithful ally!

With a loud cry of terror, I threw up my hand and sent the weapon whirling over his shoulder, a harmless report ringing sharply on the still night air. He turned on me, a fearful oath giving emphasis to the cruel hand with which he seized my hair and shook me.

"I'll teach you"— he hissed as I cried out under his grasp.
But the sentence was never finished. The next instant he relaxed his hold to combat a more formidable adversary.

Roused to a perfect frenzy by the sound of my cries and the sight of the villain's hand upon me. Bruce had left his maimed and half unconscious foe to fly with redoubled fury at my assailant. The struggle was short and fierce, but the brute proved more than a match for the man, and, with his ready teeth and savage growls to assist me, I succeeded in placing the weeth under bonds as strong as those with which I had already secured his crippled companion.

Poor Bruce left the battlefield with

in placing the wretch under hones has strong as those with which I had already secured his crippled companion.

Poor Bruce left the battletield with several bad flesh wounds, but he limped after me into the kitchen, wagging his tail as industriously as if he had never felt the cruel khife blade and very evidently with a full sense of the inestimable service he had rendered me and his own consequent importance.

Dear old Bruce! I dressed his wounds, kissed him and then fed him regally on sirioin steak, which latter attention, I sm compelled to admit, was obviously the most acceptable.

As for my unjuvited guests, common humanity led me to make them as confortable as possible for the night on their hard beds, and the next day I saw to it that they reached their proper destination.—New York News.

Sensible Suggestion.

He fell on his knees before her.
"I will do anything to prove my love for you." he said. "I will go to the ends of the earth. If necessary. No task that you may set me can be teo difficult, too hazardous. Only tell me what I can do to convince you."— "You might marry me," she suggested

"You might marty missingly.

Taking everything into consideration, it finally occurred to him that possibly the idea was a good one. After all, it is not so hard to prove one's love as it sometimes comm.—Chicago Post. A Coming Sensation. Deacon Saintly (to wife, as congrega-tion assembles)—Where is Mrs. Fashum this morning? She is usually among the

early comers.

Mrs. Saintly—She will be inte today.

saw her buying a new hat last weekBaltimore Awerican.

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This hat," she said, "displeases me." "This hat," she said, "displeases me."
Her pretty brows were in a trium;
Bhe saised the sciences and sai down.
The brown, behind the kitchen deer,
Looked down upon the littered boor.
But still she suipped and enlaped and clipped
Unit! the thing apart was ripped.
Unwashed the breakfast dishes stood,
The fire decreased for want of food,
But still her dainty flagres swist.
The outcome tips that way and this.
The clock give out a warning stroke;
With triumph in her valoe she spoke—
And gave seeks plume a loring pat—
"I wonder how I'll look in that!"

Farmer Slocut Opines. By gum! To see the dude: A-takin attitudes Over a chris-on-the-num
Makes me sick, it does, I vum!
An we can beat it fy'n,
Right here to hum.

'Tis my opine
They never seen a dandsiins
In the medder blowin!
If their mas 'ad set 'em mowin
The lawn a morain's, they'd cum
To be more imowin.

Though ye gotter 'low lots of attempt.

The Cause.
A rision of gracefulness,
Light as the doe.
The shadows that fall on her
Laugh as they go;

While, deep in the meadow, The wild flowers sweet,
All humble, bend down
'Neath her scornful young feet,

And in the green forest The wild, sparkling brook klore gayly speeds on 'Neath her Hugering look, All people who meet With her sweet, winning way!

But, though she is fair, With her sparkling brown eyes And her sumbiny bair, Where the light never dies,

This maiden is sad.

And I'll tell you what at—
She dislikes the red trimming
Upon her new bat.

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Kitty (sympatherical)

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Kitty (sympathetically)—That was real mean of him, wasn't it, when he knew he had a whole chance, and you couldn't divide it?—Detroit Free Prass,